

DISTRICT OF BRIDLINGTON.

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

AND

SANITARY AUTHORITY.

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REPORT for the Year 1898,

OF

WILLIAM A. WETWAN, M.R.C.S.,


*Member of the Sanitary Institute,  
Medical Officer of Health for the District.*

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BRIDLINGTON QUAY :

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# REPORT, 1898.

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BRIDLINGTON QUAY,

*February 16th, 1899.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Urban District of Bridlington, for the year 1898.

The Urban District includes Bridlington, Bridlington Quay, Hilderthorpe, and parts of the parishes of Sewerby and Bessingby. For the purposes of this Report these parts are grouped into three localities—the township of Bridlington with part of the parish of Bessingby forms the “Old Town” locality, Bridlington Quay with part of Sewerby parish forms “The Quay,” and Hilderthorpe forms the third locality. The Urban District, as a whole, has an area of over 2,700 acres, or  $4\frac{1}{2}$  square miles, and an estimated population of over 2,000 to the square mile, the area of greatest density of population coinciding with the oldest inhabited part of the district.

The contour of the ground is a gentle slope, somewhat undulating trending from the Wolds on the North to the sea on the South and East. There is a good porous sub soil of sand and gravel overlying in the South, the post-tertiary deposits of Holderness, and on the North the chalk deposits of the Wolds. The scenery varies with the geological features, running through various phases, from the bare and somewhat bleak outlook of the high ground of the North, to the sylvan sweetness and milder air of low lying Holderness, the soft ripple of the waters of the Bay, and the distant view of Flamborough’s grand white cliffs and towering headland.

The progressive improvements and constant activity of building operations noticed in my previous Annual Reports, have steadily continued during the past year. In all parts of the district many new houses have been erected, and a noticeable addition to the public buildings of the town is now nearing completion in the form of the Grammar School, which occupies a healthy and commanding site on the ground to the north of the Bessingby Road, and promises, when completed, to be a great ornament to the landscape and, we trust, a most useful adjunct to the educational forces of the town. Such an institution has long been wanted in our midst, where a systematic education may be obtained capable of equipping the youth of the town to achieve the success in life to which we believe their natural abilities entitle them. The climate of the place with its moderate variations of temperature, its stimulating atmosphere, and the advantages of boating, bathing, and other seaside qualifications, recommend it as a place for the bringing up of young people, especially the delicate and sometimes anæmic offspring of dwellers in large cities; and the provision of educational facilities of the contemplated class should determine many new residents.

The following table shews the steady yearly increase in the number of occupied houses:

TABLE OF HOUSES.

|                   | 1898.     |             | 1897.     |             | 1896.     |             |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
|                   | Occupied. | Unoccupied. | Occupied. | Unoccupied. | Occupied. | Unoccupied. |
| Bridlington ..... | 1228      | 8           | 1206      | 4           | 1156      | 7           |
| Bridlington Quay  | 1116      | 3           | 1064      | —           | 1418      | 20          |
| Hilderthorpe..... | 546       | 9           | 507       | —           | —         | —           |
| Totals...         | 2890      | 20          | 2777      | 4           | 2564      | 27          |

I am informed that there were passed by the Council during 1898, plans for 342 new buildings, and certificates of completion were granted during the year for 198 new houses. In this connection let me remind you that the revised Bye-laws of the Council dealing with new buildings, nuisances, offensive trades, &c., have not yet made their appearance, and cannot too strongly urge your early attention to a matter of such vital importance to the health and consequent reputation of the town.

During the year several important sanitary questions arose, and are, I believe, in a fair way of settlement. The purchase of the Market Rights of the Lords Feoffees, and the property and rights of the Bridlington Water Company, so that the full control of the streets and water supply of the town may be in the hands of its responsible governing body. The necessity of providing isolation accommodation for infectious sickness, and the erection of a steam disinfecting chamber, and of plant for the destruction of refuse, have each received at your hands full recognition, and you have taken preliminary steps to secure sites for these works. They are all of the greatest interest to the town, and should be pushed forward without intermission.

The occurrence towards the close of the year of a small epidemic of Enteric Fever, mostly confined to one quarter of the town, showed how inadequate were our means of dealing with infectious disease; and, although promptly got under by the adoption of energetic measures and the equipping of a temporary hospital, the worry and pecuniary loss were considerably in excess of what the occasion would have required had our responsibilities in this direction been previously recognised. A well equipped sanitary department with the necessary buildings and organisation subserves another purpose beyond its primary objective of cleansing the town, supervising the food supply, and other matters pertaining to its sphere, in begetting in the public mind that feeling of confidence that not only has the Council the will and ability to do what is right and proper in each case, but is in every sense in possession of the machinery ready to hand to do it.

Beyond the Enteric Fever the only zymotic mischief we have had during the year has been a few cases of Scarlet Fever and Measles, and a tolerable amount of Influenza of a mild type.

The weather of the year has been favourable to us as a health resort. A mild spring was followed by a fine summer, broken towards the middle by heavy rains for a few days, and closing with a very mild autumn and winter. I am unable this year to give any Meteorological data whatever. I would strongly advise the Council to form a weather observatory in the district. I am quite sure that our climate advantages will well repay the comparatively small outlay necessary to their systematic observation and tabling. Very few health resorts of importance are without such an observatory, and now that the open air treatment of Lung Complaints, which we have practised here for years, is becoming so customary, it is well to neglect nothing which will bring the town under the favourable notice of the educated public and the seekers after health.

The excessive prevalence of, and mortality from the different forms of Tuberculosis have aroused during the year a wide-spread interest amongst the public generally, and created a feeling of deep concern in the minds of medical men and sanitarians. In a report issued by the British Medical Association it is shown that the annual mortality of the United Kingdom from Tuberculosis at all ages is 2,488 per million living, whilst all the acute specific diseases put together only average 1,606. That the incidence of the disease falls on childhood—the deaths for the first five years of life being 8,795 per million against 541 for the third quinquennium (10—15 years)—the bulk of these early deaths occurring in infants, that is children under one year of age. Experience has further shown that infants and children dying of respiratory and wasting diseases are in a large proportion affected with Tuberculosis, although the patients may not have presented obvious symptoms during life. The mortality from Tuberculosis in early childhood is not decreasing as it is at other ages in the United Kingdom, and the opinion that this great prevalence of the disease in infancy and childhood is due to infection through the alimentary canal by milk from Tuberculous cows appears to be well founded. The following table showing the mean death-rate from Tables Mesenterica is given by Sir Richard Thorne in his second Harben Lecture :—

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1851-60 = 3160 | 1881-85 = 4356 |
| 1861-70 = 3800 | 1886-90 = 4462 |
| 1871-80 = 4467 | 1891-95 = 4046 |

Many suggestions have of course been made as to treatment and prophylaxis. It is with the latter aspect that we, as a Sanitary Authority, are mostly interested in this Report. Whilst regarding the compulsory notification of all Phthisis and Tuberculous affections as being at present too advanced for public opinion, it is indisputable that the Sanitary Authority should receive very early information of the termination by removal or death of all cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, so that adequate means of disinfecting the sickroom and premises may be taken before the place is re-occupied by the presumably healthy; leaflets setting out the hygienic environment of the patient and the precautions to be adopted for the prevention of infection should be freely distributed; a careful record should be made of those houses where there has been a succession of cases, and if fumigation and less drastic means of purification do not succeed in breaking the connection, the whole internal walls and ceilings should be stripped of plaster to the bricks, the floors planed and treated to a powerful fluid Bactericide, and the house left vacant for a time. Especial attention should be given to light and air space in and around new houses; and



old houses and tenements which cannot be brought up to a higher standard than at present rules, should be pulled down. Great attention should be given to the meat and milk businesses, especially the later. Frequent inspections of all dairies, cowsheds, slaughter-houses, &c., are recommended, with a free revision of bye-laws in the light of added experience and their injunctions stringently enforced. Public slaughter-houses are advised by many because of the increased facility of meat inspection. The minimum air space for cowsheds, should be not less than 800 cubic feet with suitable provision for light, ventilation, and drainage. Power to visit dairies and slaughter-houses outside the district, from which milk and meat are sent, should be obtained, and the tuberculin test applied to suspicious cows, or the milk from that dairy be excluded. A Veterinary officer should be retained to assist the Medical Officer of Health in this part of his work.

There are other recommendations with which I need not weight this paper, neither am I prepared to support them all. In this district my experience is that most of the butcher's meat is exceptionally good, the slaughter-houses are nearly all well managed, although some are badly placed. Of the cowsheds I cannot speak so well. Many of them are converted buildings, deficient in light, ventilation and space, whilst one or two are very ramshackle. Market stock, poultry, butter, rabbits, &c., would bear much more frequent inspection. Tuberculosis is not confined to man and cows.

#### VITAL STATISTICS OF ENGLAND AND WALES FOR 1898.

The birth-rate of England and Wales was 29·4 per 1000, which is lower than that in any other year on record; compared with the average in the ten preceeding years it shows a decrease of 1·1 per 1000.

The death-rate was 17·6 per 1000, which was 0·8 per 1000 below the average rate in the ten preceeding years. Excepting 1894-96-97 the death-rate last year was the lowest on record.

The rate of mortality among infants was 161 per 1000 registered births, which was 12 per 1000 above the average. The deaths resulting from the principal Zymotic Diseases were equal to a rate of 2·22 per 1000 living, against 2·21 and 2·17 respectively, in the two preceeding years.

#### DISTRICT VITAL STATISTICS FOR TEN YEARS, 1889-98.

|              | 1889. | 1890. | 1891. | 1892. | 1893. | 1894. | 1895. | 1896. | 1897. | 1898.  |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Births.      | 211   | 230   | 246   | 229   | 225   | 265   | 244   | 273   | 278   | 286    |
| Deaths.      | 147   | 169   | 187   | 173   | 195   | 135   | 172   | 165   | 192   | 238    |
| Birth-rates. | 21·14 | 23·0  | 25·10 | 23·48 | 22·9  | 26·9  | 24·58 | 26·6  | 24·7  | 24·48  |
| Death-rates. |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |
| General.     | 14·70 | 16·90 | 19·08 | 17·70 | 19·8  | 13·7  | 17·32 | 16·18 | 17·06 | 20·30  |
| Zymotic.     | 0·70  | 1·80  | 1·42  | 1·74  | 2·54  | 1·01  | 2·92  | 1·65  | 1·5   | 1·11   |
| Infantile.   | 142·1 | 147·8 | 101·6 | 135·3 | 155·5 | 116·9 | 204·9 | 109·8 | 154·6 | 153·40 |

#### DISTRICT VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population for 1898 is 11,680, divided between the three localities as follows: Brillington (Old Town), 4,766; the Quay, 4,640; and Hilderthorpe, 2,274, being an increase of 439 on the previous year's estimate. I am inclined to consider this an underestimate of the popula-

tion, but it is the only possible calculation with the present data, which must serve now until the next national enumeration. An intercensal, or local quinquennial enumeration, would be of some use, but that would not give the full proportion of visitors, who are the disturbing factor in the calculation

### MARRIAGES.

There were 102 marriages solemnised within the Urban District Council's area during the year, being at the rate of 17·36 persons married to each 1000 of the population, compared with 15·10 and 22·0 in the two preceding years.

### BIRTHS AND BIRTH-RATES.

There were 286 births registered in the Urban District during the year 1898, against 278 and 273 in the two preceding years. The birth-rate of the respective localities was 28·4 for Bridlington, 19·39 for the Quay, and 26·8 for Hildethorpe. The births for the Urban District being equal to an annual ratio of 24·48 per 1000 living.

TABLE OF QUARTERS.

|                            | 1898.  |          |        | 1897.  |          |        |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
|                            | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| <b>BRIDLINGTON—</b>        |        |          |        |        |          |        |
| 1st Quarter.....           | 8      | 13       | 21     | 20     | 18       | 38     |
| 2nd Quarter.....           | 19     | 22       | 41     | 22     | 21       | 43     |
| 3rd Quarter.....           | 20     | 22       | 42     | 22     | 15       | 37     |
| 4th Quarter.....           | 12     | 19       | 31     | 18     | 18       | 36     |
| Totals...                  | 59     | 76       | 135    | 82     | 72       | 154    |
| <b>BRIDLINGTON QUAY—</b>   |        |          |        |        |          |        |
| 1st Quarter.....           | 7      | 12       | 19     | 5      | 9        | 14     |
| 2nd Quarter.....           | 12     | 15       | 27     | 15     | 7        | 22     |
| 3rd Quarter.....           | 12     | 13       | 25     | 12     | 8        | 20     |
| 4th Quarter.....           | 11     | 8        | 19     | 7      | 9        | 16     |
| Totals...                  | 42     | 48       | 90     | 39     | 33       | 72     |
| <b>HILDERTHORPE—</b>       |        |          |        |        |          |        |
| 1st Quarter.....           | 10     | 7        | 17     | 10     | 6        | 16     |
| 2nd Quarter.....           | 5      | 11       | 16     | 2      | 6        | 8      |
| 3rd Quarter.....           | 5      | 6        | 11     | 7      | 7        | 14     |
| 4th Quarter.....           | 8      | 9        | 17     | 8      | 6        | 14     |
| Totals...                  | 28     | 33       | 61     | 27     | 25       | 52     |
| Totals for the District... | 129    | 157      | 286    | 148    | 130      | 278    |

There were 28 children born out of wedlock, being 2·3 per 1000 persons living, and constituting 9·8 per centum of total births. The highest ratio was in the Old Town, where illegitimates equal 16·2 per centum of the births.

## DEATHS AND DEATH-RATES.

The corrected deaths for the Urban District were 238, against 192 and 165 for the two preceding years. Of this District total the Old Town contributed 110, The Quay 85, and Hilderthorpe 43. The death-rates from all causes" and at "all ages" was 23·08 at Bridlington, 18·10 at the Quay, and 18·90 at Hilderthorpe. The rate of mortality for the Urban District, as a whole, being equal to 20·30 per 1000 living.

TABLE OF QUARTERS.

|                            | 1898.  |          |        | 1897.  |          |        |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
|                            | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| <b>BRIDLINGTON—</b>        |        |          |        |        |          |        |
| 1st Quarter.....           | 11     | 23       | 34     | 22     | 12       | 34     |
| 2nd Quarter.....           | 12     | 10       | 22     | 13     | 8        | 21     |
| 3rd Quarter.....           | 7      | 12       | 19     | 9      | 12       | 21     |
| 4th Quarter.....           | 14     | 21       | 35     | 13     | 13       | 26     |
| Totals...                  | 44     | 66       | 110    | 57     | 45       | 102    |
| <b>BRIDLINGTON QUAY—</b>   |        |          |        |        |          |        |
| 1st Quarter.....           | 11     | 9        | 20     | 7      | 7        | 14     |
| 2nd Quarter.....           | 4      | 15       | 19     | 7      | 11       | 18     |
| 3rd Quarter.....           | 15     | 16       | 31     | 9      | 11       | 20     |
| 4th Quarter.....           | 8      | 7        | 15     | 8      | 5        | 13     |
| Totals...                  | 38     | 47       | 85     | 31     | 34       | 65     |
| <b>HILDERTHORPE—</b>       |        |          |        |        |          |        |
| 1st Quarter.....           | 7      | 4        | 11     | 1      | 4        | 5      |
| 2nd Quarter.....           | 4      | 3        | 7      | 3      | 2        | 5      |
| 3rd Quarter.....           | 13     | 3        | 16     | 3      | 4        | 7      |
| 4th Quarter.....           | 5      | 4        | 9      | 3      | 5        | 8      |
| Totals...                  | 29     | 14       | 43     | 10     | 15       | 5      |
| Totals for the District... | 111    | 127      | 238    | 98     | 94       | 192    |

The deaths of children under one year of age were 43, and are in the proportion of 153·40 per 1000 live births. Of these infantile deaths 5 or 11·6 per centum were of children born out of wedlock, and represent 17·8 per cent of the illegitimate births for the year.

## CAUSES OF DEATHS.

The gross mortality arranged to show the numbers at various ages, locality, disease, and quarter of the year, will be found in the annexed table:



# CAUSE OF DEATH.

| CAUSE OF DEATH.     | AGE.                             |              |              |               |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                 | SEX.   |          | Divisions of District. |                   |                |                | Quarters of the Year. |                |                 |    | Totals |    |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|--------|----------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|----|--------|----|
|                     | Under 1 year.                    | From 1 to 2. | From 2 to 5. | From 5 to 10. | From 10 to 15. | From 15 to 25. | From 25 to 40. | From 40 to 50. | From 50 to 65. | From 65 to 80. | From 80 to 90. | From 90 to 100. | Males. | Females. | Bridlington.           | Bridlington Quay. | Hildesborough. | First Quarter. | Second Quarter.       | Third Quarter. | Fourth Quarter. |    |        |    |
|                     |                                  |              |              |               |                |                |                |                |                |                |                |                 |        |          |                        |                   |                |                |                       |                |                 |    |        |    |
| Zymotic Diseases.   | Diarrhoea .. .. .                | 3            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | 2      | 1        | 1                      | ..                | 1              | 2              | ..                    | ..             | 3               | .. | 3      |    |
|                     | Scarlet Fever .. ..              | ..           | 1            | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | 3              | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | ..     | 1        | 1                      | ..                | ..             | ..             | ..                    | ..             | ..              | 9  | ..     |    |
|                     | Enteric Fever .. ..              | 2            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | 4      | 1        | 1                      | 1                 | 1              | ..             | ..                    | 1              | 1               | 1  | ..     |    |
|                     | Whooping Cough ..                | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | 2              | ..             | 3              | ..             | 1              | ..              | 1      | ..       | ..                     | ..                | ..             | ..             | ..                    | ..             | ..              | .. | ..     |    |
|                     | Erysipelas .. .. .               | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | 1      | 5        | 1                      | 1                 | 1              | 1              | 7                     | 1              | 1               | .. | ..     |    |
|                     | Influenza .. .. .                | 1            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 3              | ..             | 2              | ..              | 3      | ..       | ..                     | 1                 | 1              | 2              | ..                    | 1              | ..              | .. | ..     |    |
|                     | Aphtha .. .. .                   | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | ..     | 1        | ..                     | 1                 | ..             | ..             | ..                    | 2              | ..              | .. | ..     |    |
|                     | Diabetes .. .. .                 | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | 1              | 1              | ..             | 2              | 6              | 2               | ..     | 2        | 1                      | 1                 | 1              | 1              | 1                     | 2              | 2               | 1  | ..     | 3  |
|                     | Cancer .. .. .                   | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 3              | ..             | ..              | ..     | 3        | 9                      | 6                 | 5              | 1              | ..                    | 5              | 5               | 2  | ..     | 12 |
|                     | Abscess .. .. .                  | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 1              | ..             | ..              | ..     | ..       | 1                      | ..                | 1              | ..             | ..                    | ..             | 1               | .. | ..     | 1  |
| Other Diseases.     | Gangrene .. .. .                 | 1            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 1              | ..             | ..              | 8      | 1        | 1                      | 1                 | ..             | 2              | 1                     | 4              | 3               | .. | ..     | 12 |
|                     | Phthisis .. .. .                 | 2            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | 4              | 5              | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | 3      | 4        | 3                      | 6                 | 4              | 2              | 4                     | 3              | ..              | .. | 6      |    |
|                     | Tuberculosis .. ..               | 1            | 1            | 1             | 1              | 1              | ..             | 1              | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | 3      | 3        | 3                      | 2                 | 2              | 1              | 7                     | 6              | 8               | 9  | 30     |    |
|                     | Disease of Brain and Spinal Cord | 5            | 1            | 2             | ..             | ..             | 2              | ..             | 5              | 11             | 3              | ..              | 15     | 15       | 15                     | 8                 | 8              | 7              | 4                     | 6              | 6               | 6  | 24     |    |
|                     | Disease of Heart & Blood Vessels | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 9              | 15             | ..             | ..              | 10     | 14       | 14                     | 14                | 14             | 8              | 4                     | 7              | 4               | 11 | 38     |    |
|                     | Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy | 4            | 1            | 2             | ..             | 2              | 2              | 2              | 10             | 11             | 5              | ..              | 20     | 18       | 16                     | 14                | 10             | 3              | 16                    | 7              | 7               | 4  | 28     |    |
|                     | Disease of Liver and Bowels, &c. | 7            | 1            | ..            | ..             | 2              | 2              | 2              | 4              | 3              | ..             | ..              | 12     | 9        | 8                      | 10                | 3              | 6              | 9                     | 1              | 10              | 5  | 21     |    |
|                     | Disease of Urinary Organs, &c.   | 1            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | 2              | ..             | 2              | 1              | ..             | ..              | 2      | 4        | 1                      | 4                 | 1              | 1              | 1                     | 1              | 3               | 1  | 6      |    |
|                     | Childbirth .. .. .               | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | 1              | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | ..     | 1        | 1                      | 1                 | ..             | ..             | 3                     | 3              | ..              | 1  | 1      | 9  |
|                     | Marasmus and Debility ..         | 8            | 1            | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | ..     | 6        | 3                      | 6                 | 3              | 3              | 3                     | 3              | 2               | 2  | 1      | 1  |
| Other Causes.       | Premature Birth .. ..            | 6            | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | 2      | 4        | 3                      | 2                 | 2              | 1              | 1                     | 1              | 2               | 2  | 6      | 2  |
|                     | Dentition .. .. .                | 1            | 1            | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 1              | ..             | ..             | ..              | ..     | 2        | 2                      | 2                 | ..             | ..             | 1                     | 1              | 1               | 1  | 2      | 6  |
|                     | Old Age .. .. .                  | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 1              | 13             | 2              | ..              | 1      | 19       | 19                     | 7                 | 4              | ..             | 10                    | 5              | 10              | 3  | 30     |    |
|                     | Natural Causes .. ..             | 1            | ..           | ..            | 1              | ..             | ..             | 1              | 1              | 3              | 2              | ..              | 4      | 4        | 4                      | 4                 | 4              | ..             | 1                     | 1              | 3               | 8  | 8      |    |
|                     | Inquests. {                      | 1            | ..           | ..            | 1              | ..             | ..             | ..             | 4              | 1              | ..             | ..              | 7      | 4        | 2                      | 3                 | 4              | 2              | 2                     | 2              | 2               | 3  | 9      |    |
| Traumatic Causes .. |                                  | ..           | ..           | ..            | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..              | ..     | ..       | ..                     | ..                | ..             | ..             | ..                    | ..             | ..              | .. | ..     |    |
| Totals .. .. .      | 43                               | 6            | 6            | 2             | 4              | 8              | 18             | 13             | 45             | 68             | 97             | 9               | 116    | 126      | 117                    | 84                | 41             | 67             | 49                    | 68             | 58              | 42 |        |    |

*Disease*.—There were 13 deaths from diseases which come within the category of “principal zymotic diseases,” of which 8 belong to the Old Town, 3 to the Quay, and 2 to Hilderthorpe. The zymotic mortality-rate for the Urban District was 1·11, as compared with 1·5, 1·65, and 2·92 per 1000 for the three preceding years. The zymotic death-rate of England and Wales for 1898 having been 2·22 per 1000 living. There were 8 deaths attributed to Influenza, against 2 in 1897, and 3 the year before. There were 12 fatal cases of Cancer against 13 in 1897. There were 12 deaths from Phthisis Pulmonalis, and 6 from general Tuberculosis, the total of 18 being 7 in excess of the mortality in 1897, and 1 below that of 1896. Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy took 38 victims, being 14 in excess of the loss from this cause in 1897. Disease of the Brain and Spinal Cord claimed 30 deaths, and Disease of Heart and Vascular system 24, against 32 and 25 in 1897 for those respective groups. Disease of Liver and Bowels had 21 deaths in 1898, against 9 in 1897; and there were 30 deaths attributed to Old Age as compared with 18 in the previous year. There were 17 Inquests in 1898, being just 10 in excess of the number for 1897. Our total gross mortality being 45 above that of the previous twelve months, and the heaviest death-rate we have experienced during the past ten years.

*Age*.—We had 7 deaths less than in 1897 in the first quinquennium of life, and 36 more amongst those who had attained to 65 years and upwards.

#### YEARLY MORTALITY FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES SINCE 1887.

|                  | 1887 | 1888 | 1889 | 1890 | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 | 1897 | 1898 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Diarrhoea.....   | 2    | 1    | —    | 7    | 6    | 2    | 19   | 1    | 18   | 3    | 7    | 3    |
| Diphtheria ..... | —    | —    | —    | —    | 1    | 2    | —    | 2    | 1    | —    | 1    | —    |
| Enteric Fever... | 2    | 1    | 3    | 1    | 3    | 1    | 4    | —    | 4    | 2    | 1    | 7    |
| Scarlet Fever... | 2    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 6    | 3    | 1    |
| Measles.....     | —    | —    | —    | 9    | 5    | 7    | —    | —    | —    | 4    | 1    | —    |
| Whooping Cough   | 4    | 1    | 4    | 1    | —    | 4    | —    | 6    | 4    | 2    | 4    | 2    |
| Small Pox .....  | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Croup .....      | —    | 1    | —    | —    | 1    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | 2    | —    | —    |

#### YEARLY MORTALITY FROM CERTAIN DISEASES SINCE 1887.

|                  | 1887 | 1888 | 1889 | 1890 | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 | 1897 | 1898 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cancer .....     | 9    | 4    | 5    | 12   | 8    | 6    | 8    | 5    | 10   | 10   | 13   | 12   |
| Tuberculosis ... | 10   | 13   | 15   | 14   | 20   | 16   | 18   | 17   | 11   | 19   | 11   | 18   |
| Influenza .....  | —    | —    | —    | 1    | 10   | —    | 6    | 1    | 11   | 3    | 2    | 8    |
| Bronchitis, &c.  | 33   | 28   | 23   | 31   | 33   | 29   | 30   | 28   | 17   | 25   | 24   | 38   |

#### VACCINATION.

In the six months ended 30th June, 1898, there were 166 births registered in the Bridlington Registration District. Of these 84 were successfully vaccinated, 23 died unvaccinated, 7 were declared insusceptible (the largest number I have known in this neighbourhood), 2 were postponed by Medical Certificate, 1 was removed to a known district, and 2 to places unknown, and certificates of conscientious objection were returned for 2,

leaving 45 or 28·37 per centum of total births unaccounted for. It is, of course, much too early to attempt any estimate of the value of the much debated Vaccination Act of last year. No doubt the great amount of attention drawn by Parliament to the subject will have an appreciably beneficial effect, and it is already becoming apparent that the "conscientious objector" is not so "conscientious" nor so very "objective" as he was at first thought to be; but a record should be kept of him and a note made of his whereabouts that he may receive attention in threatening circumstance. It is right that the Act should have a fair trial, and I hope that the various Authorities charged with its administration will carry out their statutory obligations with intelligence and firmness, so that some of the arrears accumulated by years of laxity may be caught up, although many experienced administrators believe that nothing short of a sharp outbreak of Small Pox will suffice to enlighten the fatuous ignorance and cure the culpable carelessness of those who have during the last ten years systematically evaded their obligations in this respect. I believe the average cost of a case of Small Pox is about £20 to say nothing of the loss of business and work. It does not require, then, a very deep knowledge of arithmetic to see from the following table that we have in our District alone sufficient unvaccinated individuals to make a £2,000 epidemic, which the most light-hearted of tax-payers would regard with anything but equanimity, but I need hardly add that this town *cannot afford* an epidemic of *anything*, and any further trifling with infection should be firmly suppressed.

#### VACCINATION STATISTICS.

| Year. | Births. | Successfully Vaccinated. | Insusceptible. | Died Unvaccinated. | Postponed by Medical Certificate, | Removed to Districts known. | Removed to Districts unknown. | Unaccounted for. | Per cent lost sight of or unaccounted for. |
|-------|---------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 1887  | 276     | 216                      | —              | 31                 | 6                                 | 9                           | —                             | 14               | 5·0  |
| 1888  | 299     | 239                      | —              | 29                 | 3                                 | 2                           | 4                             | 22               | 8·3  |
| 1889  | 310     | 191                      | —              | 37                 | —                                 | 2                           | 6                             | 54               | 17·4                                       |
| 1890  | 275     | 214                      | —              | 25                 | 1                                 | 2                           | 7                             | 26               | 9·4  |
| 1891  | 324     | 245                      | —              | 36                 | 2                                 | —                           | —                             | 40               | 12·3                                       |
| 1892  | 290     | 206                      | —              | 24                 | —                                 | 1                           | —                             | 59               | 20·0                                       |
| 1893  | 326     | 202                      | —              | 33                 | —                                 | 2                           | —                             | 89               | 27·3                                       |
| 1894  | 309     | 192                      | —              | 32                 | 2                                 | 4                           | 10                            | 67               | 24·9                                       |
| 1895  | 308     | 147                      | —              | 35                 | 2                                 | —                           | —                             | 124              | 40·26                                      |
| 1896  | 327     | 212                      | 2              | 42                 | 1                                 | 2                           | 11                            | 57               | 20·7                                       |
| 1897  | 344     | 213                      | 3              | 33                 | —                                 | 2                           | 1                             | 89               | 26·7                                       |

#### ST. ANNE'S CONVALESCENT HOME.

St. Anne's received 920 convalescents during the past season, against 860 in the previous year. In all this large number of invalids there were only 2 deaths. There were 60 cases of Pulmonary Phthisis, and it is gratifying to know that each one gained in weight and strength, some to a marked degree. These facts cannot be too widely spread abroad. Apart from the evidence they disclose of the skill and ability brought to bear in administering the charity, they offer eloquent testimony to the restorative

properties of our ozone-laden atmosphere, and should do our town and district valuable service amongst those in search of a health-resort at once cheerful and invigorating. Sea-air is of the greatest use in stimulating the jaded appetites of the consumptive, and in our sheltered neighbourhood may be borne through the greater part of the year.

### THE LLOYD COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

This interesting and valuable local charity has been of the greatest use to the community during the past year, and proved an inestimable boon to many sick poor. There were 98 out-patients, and 109 in-patients during the year, whilst the number of visits to the Hospital for medicine and advice reached the very considerable total of 1,500, entailing on the Honorary Medical Staff and the internal administration of the hospital an amount of work which is scarcely realised by those not connected with hospital work. It is to be hoped that the earnest appeal for funds will meet with an equal response, and this very deserving institution be soon out of debt.

### SANITATION.

The Sanitary Department has performed its multifarious duties as efficiently as its small staff will permit. The number and variety of odd duties placed in the hands of the Inspector of Nuisances to carry through, pre-suppose a very versatile and almost ubiquitous individual. Pleasure boats, hackney carriages, regulations of traffic, collection of tolls on the beach, supervision of donkeys, &c., &c., are entirely outside the duties of a Sanitary Inspector. A town of such size and such varying requirements in summer and winter should have the services of, at least, two permanent officials in this department.

The additional lavatory accommodation was fully utilised during the summer, and is, I should say, very nearly self-supporting.

The sewers in one or two parts of the town have not been entirely satisfactory in the past year, and it is for you to consider whether, seeing the rapidity with which the town grows—it will be about double in ten years—it would not be well to be prepared with a comprehensive scheme for increasing the sewer capacity as well as efficiency before the town obviously out-grows its present sewers.

The District Scavenging has considerably improved since the Council undertook the work in the greater part of the town. The position of refuse depôts has occasioned a good deal of groundless alarm and complaint during the year. Wherever you have these places they are a sure source of annoyance, fancied or real, and the only effective remedy is to centralise the various divisions of the Council's work, and provide refuse-destructor, disinfector, stabling, electric light plant, &c., all on one central site. Dealt with comprehensively in a business-like way, refuse ceases to be a nuisance, and becomes a source of energy if not of profit.

Increased attention will have to be given to the Dairies and Cow-sheds in your District—the space of 600 cubic feet permitted by your Bye-laws is not sufficient—and many of the Cow-sheds are dark, delapidated, and close.



I have visited the slaughter-houses. There is one slaughter-house next to a Public Elementary School and other two are so close to, and hemmed in by dwelling-houses, that the three must often prove a great annoyance to their neighbours; such places should always be relegated to the outskirts of a town, and no new ones should be licensed in crowded localities.

Allow me to thank the Gentlemen forming your Sanitary Committee for the interest they have shown in the work of the department, and for their unvarying courtesy and kindness to myself.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM A. WETWAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Urban Council and Sanitary Authority, Bridlington.

*To the Medical Officer of Health, Bridlington Urban District Council.*

BRIDLINGTON QUAY,

FEBRUARY 1899.

SIR,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report of work done in the Sanitary Department for the year ended December 31st, 1898.

**INSPECTION.**—I have again carried out as far as possible a house-to-house inspection of the entire district. Many trivial matters have been dealt with on verbal recommendation, and others reported to the Sanitary Committee in the usual way, and notices served to abate or abolish the nuisance complained of. I append herewith a tabular statement of these cases.

**HOUSE SCAVENGING.**—The House Scavenging for the whole district has been much better done than in previous years. Sub-Districts No. 1 and 2 have been done by contractors; Sub-Districts No. 3 4 5 and 6 by the Council's own carts and men. About 3,806 cart loads of ashes and refuse have been removed during the past year. Disinfectants were freely used during the summer months.

**WATER SUPPLY.**—The water from two public pumps was submitted to analysis, and being found organically contaminated, its use was discontinued for drinking purposes, and the Company's water supplied.

**SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.**—During the year 34 observations of emitting volumes of dense black smoke from the various Bakehouses, Laundries and other chimneys, duration of same from 3 to 10 minutes.

**COWSHEDS, &c.**—During the year I have made systematic inspection of the Cowsheds, Slaughter-houses, Common Lodging houses, and Bakehouses. The Cowsheds and Dairies have been kept in a fairly clean and satisfactory condition. Three places which were not quite satisfactory, as to space, light, and drainage, have been discontinued. The whole of the Slaughter-houses, Common Lodging Houses, and Bakehouses, have been fairly well managed during the past year, and kept in a moderately clean state.

On the 31st of January, 1898, I found a box containing about 2 cwt. of herrings at the N.E. Railway Station, which, on examination, was found to be in a stinking condition. They were taken before a Justice of the Peace who, on a certificate from the Medical Officer of Health, ordered them to be destroyed.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS REED,

Inspector of Nuisances.

To the Medical Officer of Health, Urban District Council, Bridlington.

INSPECTIONS MADE.—During the year ended December 31st, 1898, I have made the following visits of inspection to the places named below:—

|                                       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| To Cow-sheds and Milk-shops           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 246 |
| „ Slaughter-houses                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 145 |
| „ Common Lodging-houses               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 84  |
| „ Bakehouses                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 108 |
| „ Workshops and other places of Trade | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22  |
| Total                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     | 605 |

PORT INSPECTION.—I have also inspected 7 sea-going vessels and 51 fishing vessels, making a total of 58. The majority I found in a fairly clean condition. One Dutch fishing vessel and four Scotch vessels, found in a dirty condition, were requested to have the same cleansed forthwith.

BEACH.—Number of entries made of people using the beach with various stalls, &c., during the summer season of 1898, were 742, against 645 the previous season.

|                              |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |    |    |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|----|----|
|                              |     |     |     |     |     |     | £    | s. | d. |
| Fees received for same       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 92   | 19 | 6  |
| Fees, property account       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18   | 0  | 0  |
| Total                        |     |     |     |     |     |     | £110 | 19 | 6  |
|                              |     |     |     |     |     |     | £    | s. | d. |
| Licenses granted for Beach:— |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |    |    |
| 17 Horses                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1    | 5  | 6  |
| 79 Asses                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3    | 19 | 0  |
| 21 Attendants                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1    | 1  | 0  |
| Total                        |     |     |     |     |     |     | £6   | 5  | 6  |

#### TABULAR STATEMENT OF CASES.

|  |     |     |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Defective privies, soil-boxes, &c.                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |
| „ ashpits  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| „ drainage   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 49 |
| Privies without soil-boxes                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| „ under workrooms                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| „ delapidated  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| „ emptying through dwelling houses                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| Dust-boxes provided                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| Filthy dipstone cesspools                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| W.C's. worn out and defective                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| „ want of ventilation and water supply                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| House drains blocked up                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Sleeping rooms over-crowded                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |
| Houses, workshops, &c., want of sanitary accommodation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| „ without water supply                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |

|  |     |     |                        |     |           |
|--|-----|-----|------------------------|-----|-----------|
|  |     |     | <i>Brought forward</i> | ... |           |
| Floors and yards badly paved                       | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 6         |
| Filthy living and sleeping rooms                   | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 7         |
| „ rain-water cisterns                              | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 2         |
| Un-drained and filthy piggeries                    | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 4         |
| Piggeries removed                                  | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 1         |
| Accumulation and deposit of filth and manure heaps | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 9         |
| Public urinals without water supply                | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 2         |
| Filthly and grown up water courses                 | ... | ... | ...                    | ... | 2         |
|  |     |     |                        |     | <hr/> 263 |

## COW-SHEDS.

|  |     |     |     |     |          |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Limewashing, cleansing, &c.              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9        |
| Drains blocked or defective, and repairs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6        |
| Filthy manure heaps or pits              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8        |
| Cesspools in cow-sheds                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1        |
| Yards in a bad condition                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3        |
|  |     |     |     |     | <hr/> 27 |

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

|                                     |     |     |     |     |          |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Limewashing and cleansing           | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2        |
| Yards, &c., badly paved             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3        |
| Improper deposit of garbage, &c.    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5        |
| Accumulation of manure and pig wash | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7        |
| Other matters                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2        |
|                                     |     |     |     |     | <hr/> 19 |

## COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

|   |     |     |     |     |          |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Limewashing and cleansing                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5        |
| Filthy privies, yards, and manure heaps                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11       |
| Want of ventilation of rooms, inattention to slops, &c. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7        |
| Repairs of living, and sleeping rooms                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3        |
| Worn-out leaky soil-boxes                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4        |
| Bad condition of yards, &c.                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3        |
| Drains blocked up &c.                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2        |
| Limewashing, cleansing and repairs                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5        |
| Removal of ashes &c.                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3        |
|   |     |     |     |     | <hr/> 43 |

|             |     |     |           |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Total Cases | ... | ... | <hr/> 352 |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----------|

F. REED.